

Application No. 10/593,480  
Reply to Office Action of December 17, 2008

Docket No.: 5706-0103PUS1

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION****Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 15, with the following amended paragraph:

A module of this type is problematic in that permeability degradation can occur from ~~fowling~~fouling since it is impossible to effectively remove contaminants accumulated on the membrane surfaces, as is generally known in the case of wastewater treatment. To overcome this problem, a submerged module without a case has been devised. But, unless the strength of membranes is sufficiently high, degradation of system reliability due to membrane damage can cause serious problems. In addition, unless diffusion action using air is carried out efficiently, a ~~fowling~~fouling problem may still occur and this may lead to problems such as increase in operation pressure and decrease in flux.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

Additionally, since the submerged hollow fiber membrane module has a structure capable of shaking the hollow fiber membranes with bubbles generated from three surfaces through diffusion tubes 11, it can effectively prevent ~~fowling~~fouling.